

- For Immediate Release -

Monday, February 25, 2008

Arizona Department of Public Safety Photo Enforcement Update

DPS has made nine arrests for criminal speeding in connection with the Loop 101 stationary Photo Enforcement Program. Since its inception, the Loop 101 portion of the program has resulted in approximately 57,404 citations.

The highest speed recorded by the Loop 101 stationary photo enforcement cameras was 131 miles per hour. Julius Rene Paet Malantangay of Mesa, the driver of the vehicle traveling at that speed, was arrested on October 31, 2007 for two counts of Criminal Speed, one count of reckless driving and one count of endangerment.

The Highest speed recorded by the stationary photo enforcement cameras on the Loop 101 in January was 114 miles per hour. In December the highest speed was 116 miles per hour.

To date the motorist with the most violations is Samantha L. Ingalls of Queen Creek. Ms. Ingalls was captured by stationary cameras on State Route 101 exceeding the speed limit on 29 separate occasions. On January 10th, 2008, Ingalls was arrested for three counts of reckless driving and three counts of criminal speed. In addition, she was served with 25 civil traffic speed citations.

A two-year pilot project utilizing mobile photo enforcement vehicles along designated highway areas, in addition to the stationary cameras on Loop 101, was launched in mid November. Since then 75 percent of camera activations have involved motorists driving less than 11 miles an hour over the posted speed limit. Only 25 percent of those activations involved motorists driving 20 miles an hour or more over the limit. This indicates that in the initial months of the mobile photo enforcement project, people are getting the word that photo enforcement vehicles are on the roads.

"We always stress that photo enforcement, whether based upon stationary cameras or vehicles, is not a replacement for Officers. It does however help slow people down and in turn goes a long way toward preventing serious injury and fatal collisions. We hope people are getting the message to slow down and observe posted speed limits on all our highways," said Roger Vanderpool, Director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

